

• Nominee name and complete contact information, including email address

Name: Carl Gwinn

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• A short statement to confirm how the applicant meets **each** of the selection criteria listed:

I am a professor of Physics at the University of California, Santa Barbara, and a recreational scuba diver. I consider myself to be informed and fair – and to have that reputation -- and capable of involving a wide group of divers and other stakeholders in the process of considering the best options for coastal MPAs in Southern California. I believe that I can be a useful part of the stakeholder board, as an experienced diver with a wide range of diving experiences, and access to a number of communication networks among divers. I've served on a number of committees at the university that have provided me with experience in working with others of different interests. I took part as a citizen in the process that led to creation of marine reserves in the Channel Islands. Because I regard the issue of marine reserves as important, I'm willing to commit the time to serve as a member of the stakeholder group. As a professor, I have the schedule to accommodate meetings, other than 17-27 October and 27 Nov to 6 Dec.

I list more specific responses below:

1. Able to bring first-hand knowledge and perspective to bear on the marine resources of the MLPA South Coast Study Region,

I've made over 900 dives in California. In over 350 beach dives, I've dived most of the accessible shore dives along the coast from Hollister Ranch to Leo Carillo State Park, and at other sites south to San Diego. In another 550, I've dived many sites off all of the Channel Islands. I keep a complete dive log and index my photos.

2. Able to balance a south coast regional perspective with localized knowledge.

I regard myself as a well-informed citizen with knowledge of ocean issues. As a citizen, I took part in the process that resulted in the creation of the marine reserves in the Channel Islands, attending meetings and listening to others' viewpoints as well as expressing my own.

3. Willing to express fundamental interests (as opposed to fixed positions) and to clearly convey the interests of one or more stakeholder groups.

As an enthusiastic recreational diver, I'm familiar with the basic issues facing that community. These include the availability of dive sites, including access, driving time, variety and range of underwater environments. I've served as an officer of the Paradise Dive Club, given presentations and nominated speakers, and organized dive trips and events. From my many presentations of scientific papers at international meetings and my 19 years of teaching physics at all college levels, from popular survey courses to graduate classes, I am comfortable with public speaking and with engaging in productive public

debate and discussion. I've worked with, and directed, international teams of astronomers, using international networks of radio telescopes and spacecraft. As a diver, an involved citizen, and as a physics teacher and researcher, I've learned skills to communicate clearly with varied audiences.

4. Capable of working collaboratively, seeking to integrate the interests of the full range of constituencies.

I have experience in working with others on committees. During my time at UCSB, I have served on departmental and on university-wide committees. These have included chairing searches for new faculty members, for the director of Environmental Health & Safety, and Executive Committee meetings on the structure of the College of Letters and Science. These committees often comprise diverse interests from across the university, including those of faculty and staff. This committee work involved balancing these concerns in a constructive way.

5. Able to access and use an effective communication network to reach stakeholders not attending the public meetings.

My experiences as a serious recreational diver have brought me into contact with many in the dive community. I know most of those involved in recreational diving in the Santa Barbara area. I'm a former officer of the Paradise Dive club, and am familiar with its members and some other dive clubs in Southern California. I know dive instructors, from dive shops, classes and dive boats. I have worked with, and know, a number of the underwater photographers and videographers active in Southern California. I'm certified as a NOAA scientific diver, and have assisted Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary with surveys of wrecks, fish counts, and filmmaking. My wife Beth and I have also assisted Santa Barbara Channelkeeper with volunteer diving work. I've published accounts of some of these experiences on www.blueplanetdivers.org, a scientific diving website, including an account of being "tattooed" by the suckers of a giant pacific octopus, which drew many hits. I'm among the top 10 surveyors for REEF on the Pacific Coast, and am a member of REEF's "advanced assessment team". I'm an underwater photographer and post regularly on my photo weblog, www.kelpscape.com. Several of my photos appear in the just-released edition of the book "Coastal Fish ID" by Paul Humann, and others on the cover of the Summer 2008 "SBNature" magazine (published by the SB Museum of Natural History), the cover of a DVD for "Inside Sportfishing", and other places. I would tap into these communication channels to involve as many other divers in the MPA process as possible. I believe that fully engaging the community in the process will benefit both the process and the success of any resulting MPAs.

6. Committed to completing all aspects of the charge of the regional stakeholder group.

The time commitment outlined is substantial and would reduce the time I can devote to research and teaching. However, I regard the issue of sustainability of California's ocean life as critically important. I am willing and able to devote the time and energy demanded to complete the process.

- Where appropriate, identify current and past affiliations with stakeholder groups active in marine resource management.

As noted above, I'm a member of the Paradise Dive Club, and have volunteered for Santa Barbara Channelkeeper. I am a volunteer NOAA scientific diver.

- A brief summary of past involvement in the MLPA or similar collaborative public processes to provide advice on natural resource policy or planning.

As noted above, I took part, as a citizen, in the process that led to creation of the marine reserves at the Channel Islands. I attended meetings, wrote comment letters, and wrote letters to the editor, some of which appeared in print.

- Willingness to commit the time for full participation.

As noted above, the time commitment is substantial, but I am willing to commit to taking the needed time to follow through with the process.

- Descriptions of the organizations and individuals with which the nominee will communicate.

I will communicate with the diving community in Southern California. This includes residents of the coastal region and those who travel to the ocean occasionally to dive.

- Specific communication and outreach mechanisms to be utilized (give examples).

My plan is to use a multi-channel approach to engage as many divers, and others interested in coastal California waters, as possible in the process. I would suggest articles to diving websites, online bulletin boards, and magazines; and write articles and provide images myself if necessary. I'd request that videographers and photographers contribute to this effort using their own websites and channels. Direct communication through meetings and events at dive clubs provides another channel. I would volunteer myself as a speaker at dive club meetings throughout Southern California. Since this area includes a huge number of divers, I'd seek to engage others to help with these presentations. I would communicate with the members of REEF, Reefcheck, and scientific diving organizations: personal contacts, already established. I'd seek to synthesize their feedback, as a member of the RSG.

- Areas of knowledge or expertise relevant to the project.

I have been an active diver since 1997, and am interested (as an amateur) in marine species and ecology. As a professional astrophysicist, I have first-hand experience of analyzing complex and sometimes incomplete measurements, although of the sky rather than geographic data for the earth and oceans. I have published original research on statistics and evaluation of observations, which may provide perspective on the work of marine scientists and geographers. I'm a frequent diver on boats to the Channel Islands,

and know captains and crew. Such vessels provide a major share of public access to ocean resources. I believe that more Californians should enjoy – or at least better understand – the wonderful marine environment available just off their coast, and should appreciate their importance as an economic and social resource, and as a unique and beautiful place among all others on Earth.